

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An electro-optical connector module comprising a connection part, at least one optical transmitter circuit and/or optical receiver circuit and at least one electro-optical converter for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals or vice versa;

said module further comprising at least a first set of first and second substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets on which the transmitter circuit and/or receiver circuit and the converter are mounted respectively;

wherein said first and said second sheets are connected to adjacent sides of a third sheet, said first, second, and third sheets being positioned in overlapping parallel relation by folding of a flexible sheet material linking said first and third sheets and said second and third sheets to form a module having adjacent first, second, and third layers that are parallel, overlapping and connected by said flexible sheet material.

2-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) An electro-optical connector module comprising a connection part, at least one optical transmitter circuit and/or optical receiver circuit and at least one electro-

optical converter for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals or vice versa;

said module further comprising at least a first set of first and second substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets on which the transmitter circuit and/or receiver circuit and the converter are mounted respectively;

wherein said first and said second sheets are connected to adjacent sides of a third sheet, said first, second, and third sheets being positioned in overlapping parallel relation by folding of a flexible sheet material linking said first and third sheets and said second and third sheets; and

further comprising a second set of at least first and second substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets wherein said second set of insulating sheets is connected to said first set of insulating sheets by a bendable web, and wherein said second set of insulated sheets is folded over said first set of insulating sheets to be parallel and separated therefrom by bending said bendable web, thereby forming an arrangement of six separated and parallel panels.

12. (Previously Presented) An Electro-optical connector module, according to claim 1, wherein said connection part is constructed for making electrical connections.

13. (Previously Presented) An Electro-optical connector module, according to claim 12, further comprising an optical connection section.

14. (Previously Presented) An Electro-optical connector module, according to claim 1, wherein said insulating sheets cooperate with a connection block to form a substantially rigid assembly.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of constructing an Electro-optical connector module for supporting and connecting at least one optical transmitter circuit, at least one optical receiver circuit and at least one electro-optical converter for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals or vice versa, said method comprising the steps of:

constructing at least a first set of first and second substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets on which the transmitter circuit and/or receiver circuit and the converter are mounted respectively, wherein said first and said second sheets are connected to adjacent sides of a third sheet;

positioning said first, second, and third sheets in overlapping parallel relation by folding of a flexible sheet material linking said first and third sheets and said second and third sheets to form a module having adjacent first, second, and third layers that are parallel, overlapping and connected by said flexible sheet material.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of constructing an Electro-optical connector module for supporting and connecting at least one optical transmitter circuit, at least one optical receiver circuit and at least one electro-optical converter for respectively converting electrical signals into optical signals or vice versa, said method comprising the steps of:

constructing at least a first set of first and second substantially flat and substantially parallel electrically insulating sheets on which the transmitter circuit and/or receiver circuit and the converter are mounted respectively, wherein said first and said second sheets are connected to adjacent sides of a third sheet;

positioning said first, second, and third sheets in overlapping parallel relation by folding of a flexible sheet material linking said first and third sheets and said second and third sheets; and

further wherein said step of constructing said insulating sheets comprises the steps of:

constructing a second set of insulating sheets connected to said first set of insulating sheets by means of a bendable web; and

folding said second set of insulating sheets over said first set of insulating sheets to be parallel and separated therefrom by bending said bendable web and forming an arrangement of six separated and parallel sheets.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of constructing an Electro-optical connector module, according to claim 15, further including the step of constructing connectors for making electrical connections.

18. (Previously Presented) A method of constructing an Electro-optical connector module, according to claim 15, further comprising the step of constructing connectors for making optical connections.

19. (Previously Presented) A method of constructing an Electro-optical connector module, according to claim 15, wherein said insulating sheets cooperate with a connection block to form a substantially rigid assembly.